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APPLICATION NO.		FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/700,158		02/21/2001	Rachel Louise Allen	P02077 US0	2564	
26271	7590	12/12/2003		EXAMINER		
		AWORSKI, LLP	CHEU, CHANGHWA J			
1301 MCKII SUITE 5100			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
HOUSTON, TX 77010-3095				1641	11	
				DATE MAILED: 12/12/2003	, (

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)					
	09/700,158	ALLEN ET AL.					
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit					
	Jacob Cheu	1641					
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply							
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period v - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, - Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). Status	36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be tin y within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) day will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from , cause the application to become ABANDONE	nely filed s will be considered timely. the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).					
1)⊠ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 A	pril 2002.						
	action is non-final.						
) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.							
Disposition of Claims							
 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdraw 5) ☐ Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) ☐ Claim(s) is/are rejected. 7) ☐ Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) ☐ Claim(s) 1-30 are subject to restriction and/or expressions. 	wn from consideration.	··					
Application Papers							
9) The specification is objected to by the Examine	er.						
0)☐ The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.							
Applicant may not request that any objection to the	Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).						
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct	ion is required if the drawing(s) is ob	jected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).					
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.							
Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120							
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents 2. Certified copies of the priority documents 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority application from the International Bureau * See the attached detailed Office action for a list 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic since a specific reference was included in the first 37 CFR 1.78. a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language pro 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic reference was included in the first sentence of the	s have been received. s have been received in Application rity documents have been received in Application (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). of the certified copies not received priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a) at sentence of the specification or existence application has been received priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120	on No ed in this National Stage ed. e) (to a provisional application) in an Application Data Sheet. eived. and/or 121 since a specific					
Attachment(s)							
Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s)	5) Notice of Informal P	(PTO-413) Paper No(s) atent Application (PTO-152)					

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Art Unit: 1641

Barrell Land

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

The application contains claims to more than one of the combinations of categories of inventions as set forth by 37 CFR 1.475.

According to 37 CFR 1.475 regarding unity of invention:

- (a) An international and a national stage application shall relate to one invention only or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept ("requirement of unity of invention"). Where a group of inventions is claimed in an application, the requirement of unity of invention shall be fulfilled only when there is a technical relationship among those inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features. The expression "special technical features" shall mean those technical features that define a contribution which each of the claimed inventions, considered as a whole, makes over the prior art.
- (b) An international or a national stage application containing claims to different categories of invention will be considered to have unity of invention if the claims are drawn only to one of the following combinations of categories:
- (1) A product and a process specially adapted for the manufacture of said product; or
- (2) A product and a process of use of said product; or
- (3) A product, a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the said product, and a use of the said product; or
- (4) A process and an apparatus or means specifically designed for carrying out the said process; or
- (5) A product, a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the said product, and an apparatus or means specifically designed for carrying out the said process.

If an application contains claims to more or less than one of the combinations of categories of invention set forth in paragraph (b) above, unity of invention might not be present. Furthermore, the determination whether a group of inventions is so linked as to form a single general inventive

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concept shall be made without regard to whether the inventions are claimed in separate claims or as alternatives within a single claim.

Group I, claim(s) 1-10, 20-21, 24-25, 27, 30, drawn to a dimer, a process of making the dimer, and the use thereof.

Group II, claim(s) 11, 15-17, drawn to a method determining the onset or predisposition of spondyloarthropathy and its treatment with a special technical feature measuring the level of dimer in a human or animal body.

Group III, claim(s) 12 and 26, drawn to a monoclonal antibody binds to a dimer, with a special technical feature not bind to native HLA-B27.

Group IV, claim(s) 13, drawn to a method of determining the inhibition of binding of a dimer with a special technical feature of using an antibody and determining its inhibition of the binding to the dimer.

Group V, claim(s) 14, drawn to a method of determining the inhibition of binding of a dimer with a special technical feature of contacting sample with a receptor.

Group VI, claim(s) 18, 19, 28-29, drawn to an ex-vivo cell expressing of the dimer with a special technical feature of an expressed ex-vivo cell line does not express beta-microglobulin.

Group VII, claim(s) 22, drawn to a transgenic non-human animal expressing the dimer with a special technical feature of an transgenic animal.

Group VIII, claim(s) 23, drawn to a substantially isolated T cells capable of binding the dimer with a special technical feature of an isolated T cells.

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1. The inventions listed as Groups I-VIII do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

Group I, directs to a product, i.e. dimer, the process of making it, and the method of using the said product under 37 CFR 1.475 (b)(5) However, groups II-VIII, direct to different inventions with respect to group I, and furthermore, with special technical features not sharing with one another.

- Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).
- 3. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jacob Cheu whose telephone number is 703-306-4086. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Long Le can be reached on 703-305-3399. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-746-9434.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3399.

Jacob Cheu Examiner

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November 26, 2003

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